

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BROWN COUNTY
VETERANS' RECOGNITION SUBCOMMITTEE**

Pursuant to Section 19.84, Wis. Stats. a regular meeting of the **Brown County Veterans' Recognition Subcommittee** was held on Tuesday, August 10, 2010, at 5:15 p.m., in Room 201 of the Northern Building, 305 E. Walnut Street, Green Bay, Wisconsin.

PRESENT: Don Bettine, Jim Haskins, John Maino, Duane "Snake" Pierce,
John Walschinski, Joe Witkowski, Troy Ness.
EXCUSED: Jack Krueger, Sherry Steenbock, Kristen Verhaagh.
ABSENT:
ALSO PRESENT: Jerry Polus

**Running Total of Veterans' Certificates: 1151

1. **Call Meeting to Order:**
The meeting was called to order by Chair Krueger at 5:17 p.m.
2. **Invocation by Jim Haskins.**
3. **Approve/Modify Agenda:**
Witkowski should be listed under 'Report from Committee Members Present' on the agenda.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY AND SECONDED BY _____ TO
_____. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**
4. **Approve/Modify Minutes of July 13, 2010.**
Paragraph 8 under item #5; change 'selling' to 'disbursing'. Paragraph 7 under item #8;
change 'Witkowski' to 'Walschinski'. Paragraph 9 under item # 8; change 'Walschinski' to
'Witkowski'.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY PIERCE AND SECONDED BY HASKINS TO APPROVE AS
MODIFIED. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**
5. **Action Item, Consider remaining preparations and expenses for the 2010 Brown County Fair.**
Jerry Polus, Veterans' Services Officer, reported that posters for the 2010 Brown County
Fair event had been distributed. He listed some locations that these had been posted and
commented on who in the committee had been given posters to distribute.

Polus informed that he had contacted committee member Troy Ness regarding arranging the
color guard. He stated that Ness was confident that he would be able to get this taken care
of in a timely manner.

Copies of the agenda for the event were distributed to the committee for review. Polus ran
through the order of events and verified the responsibilities of the committee members.
Chairman Krueger was named as the Master of Ceremonies.
The band performance was discussed. This discussion included topics such as song choice
and at what points in the program the band should play. In addition, the flag background was

discussed and it was decided that a military funeral flag would be the most appropriate size for the tent.

Committee member John Maino informed that the Festival sponsorship for half of the cost of the Navy Band performance had fallen through. Other options for sponsorship were discussed. Maino will be looking into this.

Polus stated that the t-shirts that had been ordered were in the Veterans' Office. Committee member Jim Haskins will be responsible for taking the shirts to the fair. The rest of the prizes for the event were listed. Pierce, Haskins and Maino will be in charge of prize distribution.

Maino will be having Chairman Krueger on his radio show on August 20, 2010 to announce the event.

6. Report from CVSO Jerry Polus (if available).

Polus requested that for the September meeting there be an agenda item regarding the Power Point that has been prepared by the Veterans' Service Office about what services they offer. He stated that this would take about 20 minutes.

The Veterans' Services Office budget had been presented to County Executive Tom Hinz Thursday, August 8, 2010. They were asked to cut 5%. This amount was a standard for all county departments. Krueger informed that he, in addition to some other Supervisors, planned to address the board regarding this issue. He briefly discussed his stance as being against this directive.

Polus shared with the committee some information regarding a position that due to current county guidelines, he has been unable to fill. He explained that he has requested reorganization for his department to make up for this vacancy. Also, recently female retired Navy Veteran had begun in a work-study role and will be able to help out for two or three hours per week.

7. Report from Committee Members Present (Bettine, Haskins, Maino, Ness, Pierce, Verhaagh, Walschinski & Witkowski).

Bettine reported that the Army Reserves and the Navy Reserves were very interested in the tickets to the event at the Brown County Fair. He went on to say that he went to the Naval Reserve center but did not recognize the sailors as they have different uniforms now.

Haskins referenced a newspaper article regarding Harley Davidson, Inc donating \$1,000,000 dollars to the Disabled American Veteran's Organization. This group helps veterans understand and apply for benefits from the government to which they are entitled. Volunteers also visit wounded troops in hospitals and drive disabled veterans to and from medical appointments. Harley Davidson had previously donated \$1,000,000 to the DAV in 2006. He also reported on a restaurant in Bellevue that is owned and operated by a veteran. He referenced a newspaper article on LZ Lambeau and mentioned a comment another veteran had posted in regards to this. It was suggested by a committee member that a donation box for LZ Lambeau be set up during the event at the fair.

The committee began a brief discussion regarding whether the LZ Lambeau issue had already been resolved. Krueger volunteered to set up the donation box if it was found that there were still funds needed to pay for the event at the stadium.

Walschinski shared that his daughter-in-law's father had passed away. He had been in the Navy for 4 years and in the Navy Reserves for an additional 30 years. His name was Leo John Terry.

Kristen Verhaagh stated that if any committee members have contact information for soldiers fighting overseas they could provide her with that. She works with a group that sends gift baskets.

Witkowski referenced an article about the Village of Bellevue allowing military families to use park shelters for free. He also asked if Haskins had looked into the band "Hot Brass" that had been discussed at the previous meeting. Haskins stated that he had not gotten to listening to the CD yet, but would present on this at the next meeting of the Veterans' Recognition SubCommittee. Witkowski asked committee member Troy Ness to explain the phrase "Deckplate Leader" that was on the back of the hat he was wearing. Ness briefly explained this.

Pierce had previously mentioned that his Rolling Thunder chapter out of Wausau will be doing a ride on August 28, 2010. This event is going to be at the The Bar on Market St in Rothsville, WI. There will be vendors, a ride and a car show. Pierce commented that if anyone on the committee would like to make a donation he has raffle tickets. He noted that he is a member of the local Legion post and there will be an annual booyah event held on Saturday, September 11, 2010 at noon.

Ness reported that he had just received information regarding a local veteran who has to move but lacks the resources with which to do this. He will be calling to see what is needed and will be keeping the committee up to date on this. He also informed the committee that a Navy Ball is being held On October 16, 2010 at the Radisson. This is the first one to be held in Green Bay. He is looking into starting another veterans' group and briefly described this.

A committee member shared that his friend had gone on an Old Glory Honor Flight and thought it was great. Polus mentioned that this man had also been in attendance at an ADRC meeting and had shared his experience with Polus.

Ness shared that the coast guard is building a museum and Don is donating his uniform to this.

Polus expressed his surprise that there are still over 400 veterans on the waiting list for the Old Glory Honor Flights. Last week alone he had received 3 new applications. They are hoping to take out two more flights of veterans; one in September and one in October. These will be out of Appleton.

Maino shared that if any of the committee know any young returning vets, he has access to take them to Packer games. There are at least two games that he is able to do this for.

Pierce informed the committee that the current vice president of his Rolling Thunder chapter is leaving on the 23rd for his 3rd tour and his son is already training. They are both being deployed to Afghanistan. They are from Wausau. Maino extended an offer to take them to a Packer game before they leave.

Maino shared that on the 16th there will be a Landing Ship Tank (LST) convention in Green Bay. The banquet will be held in town and World War II Veterans will be in attendance.

8. Such other Matters as Authorized by Law. None.

9. **Adjourn.**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY HASKINS AND SECONDED BY WALSCHINSKI TO
ADJOURN AT 6:14 P.M. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Respectfully submitted,

Anna R. Meert
Recording Secretary